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US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



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Mr. M. R. BORNEM - INDIANAPOLIS

St. Louis Park

H. L. Finch

February 26, 1962

ST. LOUIS PARK - EQUIPMENT

In our discussion concerning plant property with members of the Council and the Mayor, the smoke stacks have been mentioned in an unattractive vein. It has been explained that we no longer use these smoke stacks for the removal of smoke and that it is our intention to eventually remove these stacks. As far as I am concerned, however, this is just in the talking stage and it was not my intention to make a formal request for a Work Order until more investigation on our part can be made.

As you know, we had to remove the top portion of the first stack located at the south end of the refinery, and on inspection from the ground of the two west northerly stacks, one can observe some fairly good cracks towards the top of the chimneys and we are losing bricks from the uppermost portion of the second stack from the north end of the building. It is my opinion that as a part of the investigation into both the removal of the stacks and dismantling of the by-products building that the engineering department could be consulted and I would want your inspection and recommendations concerning both of these projects.

The thoughts that we have concerning removing these stacks that are presently being used for ventilating would be to cut the stacks to the roof but then this would, as you point out, replace the natural draft of a high stack and reduce the circulation under our pans and thus slow down our cooling of the pitch. From my layman's point of view, I thought this natural draft might be replaced by the installation of an exhaust fan, perhaps at the base of the stack under the pans, which would draw the air from underneath the pans and force this up through the roof in the stack.

→ With reference to stills 9 through 12, both Mr. Werner and Mr. Sans are of the very firm opinion that repairs to these stills, to make them a functional part of our operation, is not warranted. As you know, toward the end of our runs on these stills before the installation of the new stills, we were operating on a day to day proposition and we consider the operation very hazardous. Before any of the stills 9 through 12 are fired, it would be greatly appreciated if the engineering department could take the opportunity to look at these stills and give us their recommendations. As the situation stands now, we are very reluctant to say that any of the stills 9 through 12 could be fired except in an extreme emergency condition.

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Mr. H. R. Horner

St. Louis Park Equipment

Page 2

In summary, you can probably read that I am desirous of having a visit from the engineering department, preferably you or Mr. Hennessey, to go over some of our problems and ideas which involve -

- a. Removal of waste water and filtering of waste water.
- b. A detailed discussion on the proposed installation of new work tank and tie treating oil tank and the straightening of our present work tank.
- c. Removal of smoke stacks and by-products building.
- d. Inspection of installation of new fire tube-still.
- e. Possible methods of the elimination of odor in the distillation of our tar.

Yours very truly,

H. L. Finch

HLF/ep

cc : Mr. R. J. Boyle

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